(d) 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh were covered under the Act in the first phase, 6 districts were added in the second phase and remaining 3 districts have been covered in the third and final phase of NREGA.

Intellectual property in force with CSIR

1071. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are more than 3000 intellectual property in force with CSIR;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CSIR has decided to streamline its patent holding frame-work and enforce a regulatory frame-work that ensures the financial and intellectual rights of claim holders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by CSIR to transfer these patents to a discrete company that will interface closely with the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. There are more than 3000 'in force' patents with CSIR.

(b) Field wise details of CSIR's patented inventions are as follows:-

CSIR's In-force patents

Field	%
Biological Sciences	23.54
Chemical Sciences	49.78
Drug and Pharma	12.34
Engineering Sciences	6.80
Others	7.54
TOTAL:	100.00

(c) and (d) CSIR is the holder of legal rights in all the inventions generated from CSIR laboratories and institutes. CSIR constantly reviews and manages its IP portfolio. CSIR commercializes its patents through the Business Development Units of the CSIR laboratories and institutes and National Research Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking.

Problems faced by weavers in Andhra Pradesh

1072. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the handloom weavers and powerloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh are facing a lot of problems in the absence of potential users in the domestic market as well as outside the country and they are not getting adequate price to their products;

(b) the measures to mitigate the problems of handloom weavers;

(c) whether Government has taken any measure *i.e.* loan waiver for handloom sector;

(d) whether Government proposes to export handloom products to neighbouring countries;

(e) whether Government has taken steps to increase the levy on handloom imports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms in the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India has been liberally funding the State Governments for implementing various schemes for handloom weavers to address the felt needs of the handloom weavers to enhance their production, productivity and enhance the income and social economic status of the weavers by providing skill up-gradation, infrastructure and input supply support to them. During the 11th Five Year Plan, the Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms has been implementing 5 Schemes *viz.* (1) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme. (2) Handlooms Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme which consists of Health Insurance Scheme and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojna, (3) Mill Gate Price Scheme, (4) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme, and (5) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme. During the last three years Government of India has released fund to the tune of Rs. 52.08 crore to State Government of Andhra Pradesh under various Plan and Non Plan Schemes of Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms.

For the development of powerloom sector, the Government has taken a number of initiatives to improve the plight of powerloom weavers *viz.* modernization/up-gradation of powerloom scheme, technology up-gradation scheme. 50% power tariff concession, Health Insurance Scheme to powerloom weavers, training to powerloom weavers through Powerloom Weavers Service Centres, Group Insurance Scheme to powerloom weavers through Life Insurance Corporation of India, Netha Cheyutha Trust, providing pension to weavers etc.

(c) The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has recently announced waiver of all loans of Primary handloom weavers cooperative societies in the State.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

High input costs hampering textile production

1073. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: